WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1894.

If our friends who fover us with manuscripts publication wish to have rejected articles returned they must in all cases send cremps for that purpose

LOCAL NEWA - The City and Roburban News Bureau of the University Passe and New York Associated Press is at 21 to 29 Ann street. All Information and does ments for public use instantly disseminated to the press of the whole country.

Hastening the Suspension of Gold Payments.

President CLEVELAND exhibits a remarkable talent for blundering in financial matters. He delayed taking steps for the repeal of the silver purchasing section of the SHERMAN act until the panic of 1893, which the repeal might have averted, was in full career. He has twice usurped the power of issuing bonds to pay current expenses under pretence of maintaining gold payments. He has forced through Congress a reform tariff which does not yield revenue enough for the wants of the Government, although it is loaded with an inquisitorial and unconstitutional Populist income tax; and now he has set out to procure the enactment of a currency bill, the inevitable effect of which will be to hasten a national suspension of gold payments, and a return to the depreciated paper money of war times.

The bill relating to bank currency, which at the President's instigation was reported to the House of Representatives on Monday, and for the passage of which all the power of the Administration is to be exerted, amounts to this: The requirement of Government bonds as security for national bank notes is abolished and the bonds ndw on deposit are to be returned; the prohibitory tax on State bank currency is repealed, and hereafter the 8,000 and more national and State banks in the forty-four States of the Union, are to be allowed to lesne notes to circulate as money up to 75 per cent. of their respective capitals, aggregating over \$1,000,000,000, upon the mere deposit of 80 per cent. in legal tenders of the amount so issued, and of the payment of an annual tax from which a safety fund of five per cent, is to be accumulated in the course of ten years. Provision is, indeed made that the notes shall be a first lien upon the assets of the banks, and that national banks issuing them shall be jointly responsible for their payment; but this imposes no restriction upon the amount of their issue. The 30 per cent. in legal tenders deposited as security is not to be held as a special trust fund for the purpose, but, like the gold reserve, is to be liable to depletion whenever the necessities of the Treasury may require it. Even the five per cent. safety fund is to be expended in the purchase of Government bonds. Of a gold redemption fund not one word is said.

The practical tendency of the measure is therefore, to add \$750,000,000 to the \$1,100,000,000 of paper and silver money now resting upon the small and steadily dwindling fund of gold in the Treasury. That this must lead to a speedy suspension of gold payments is too plain for argument. The eminent financiers in Wall street,

who have assisted the President twice in his unlawful sale of bonds to get money for current expenses, under the delusion that they were maintaining the national credit, can now see just what sort of a financier he is. They have loaded themselves up with \$100,000,000 of bonds of questionable legality, and before they have been able to dispose of half of them, the President proposes to throw upon the market the \$200,000,000 of bonds held by the national banks, and, besides, to inflate the currency to such an extent as to bring on the very suspension of gold payments, which they were so anxious to prevent!

A Strange Omission.

When the LEXOW committee examined Capt. CREEDEN and took his confession of having given \$15,000 for a police Captaincy, why did they not examine him closely as to the means by which he paid the notes that he gave for that amount? If he paid \$15,000 for a post worth \$2,750 a year, he must have expected to make great profits out of it by dishonest and illegal means. Here was the chance of the committee to learn from the lips of a principal the ways and means of bleeding vice and business in a police precinct for the purpose of enriching the Captain and other officers. Where did the money come from, and where did it go About all the committee took the trouble to find out was that CREEDEN got a "leaner" precinct than he expected to get when he invested. But what did he make and how did he make it? What violations of law did he wink at ! What offences or nuisances did he collect from ? What devices of blackmail or extortion did he use? What obscene oblations from vice did he get into his purse?

The committee was too much occupied in setting a premium upon a confession of perjury and bribery, to inquire by what channels the profits for which the bribery was resorted to had been conveyed.

An opportunity for pursuing the legitimate purposes of the investigation was thrown away in maudlin adulation of a perjurer and a briber. The LEXOW committee prefers sensations to facts.

The Lexow School of Ethics.

Police Captain STRAUSS took occasion on Monday to deny a report that he had made up his mind to confess before the LEXOW committee after the manner of CREEDEN. He said he had nothing to confess, and owed his guileless ignorance of the methods and the standards of that committee by such talk as this:

"If I rightly understand the aim of the Luxov cormittee, it desires to arrive at the truth. Its desire would accordingly be defeated were I to go on the stand and perjure myself by testifying that I have

Evidently Capt. STRAUSS is a very unobservant or stupid person, or one of moral conceptions very different from those of the LEXOW committee. His conduct of his precinct has already been brought in question

moned before it at any time, and the less he tells or has to tell the more severe will the committee be with him. All he has to do to get the committee's good graces and to be sent back to the Police Board as a white sheep, washed beyond possibility of future soiling, and entitled to a gold collar and a blue ribbon, is to perjure himself stoutly before the committee one day and blandly admit the perjury the next day. Per inry will probably be sufficient, but if it is not, and Cant. STRAUSS wants to make sure of the committee and establish himself as an irremovable police officer, he will merely have to say that he bought his Captainey Is that so hard to do? Is it even false What of it? Why should an obliging official, anxious to stand well with the committee and to have the nobility of his nature admired by the public and indelibly impressed upon the Police Board, besitate at a ittle more perjury? Or, if Capt. STRAUSS is inclined to be finical about these trifles et him commit some crime that will be equal to bribery and go and confess it to the ommittee. It is likely enough that Mr LEXOW and his class in ethics will not be too severe or inclined to insist upon the letter of the law. We dare say that a good highway robbery or burglary would be taken as equivalent to an act of bribery; and arson might win especial mention. Let Capt. STRAUSS, or any other police Captain who wishes for ease in the midst of alarms and longs to be able to snap his fingers at the Police Board and the Superintendent of Police, confess to perjury and to bribery, or anything equal ly bad, and he will have the satisfac tion of being idolized by the mob, lionized by the Lexow school of ethics, and taken up mighty gingerly by the Police Board. The glories of the heroes of Newgate, on their triumphal last journey to Tyburn, were nothing in splender and distinctly inferior

gospel, and GOFF is its prophet. If Capt. STRAUSS and other police officials are not dazzled by the glittering offer, it must be because they do not take that lofty view of the merits of bribery and perjury that inspires the Lexow school of ethics.

n moral impressiveness to the glory to be

got before the LExow committee by the

mere confession of a couple of crimes. Con

fess and receive immunity and the honors

of a public benefactor. Such is the LEXOV

Why Not Promote the Hero?

Almost everybody seems so pleased with the admirable career of Captain CREEDEN that we shall probably soon hear it proposed to promote him as a reward for his great public services. And why not? If he is fit to remain in

ommand of a single police precinct, why should be be debarred from advancement in the force?

It is true, people with old-fashioned nolons of right and wrong might demur at this, but we live in a new time, when the morality of GOFF and LEXOW is in vogue and old-fashioned morality is at a discount. The new Recorder of the city of New York,

man who has just been chosen to administer justice for fourteen years to come in the principal criminal court in this town, publiely declares that a Police Captain who is confessedly guilty both of bribery and perjury is fit to retain his office and command. It is a little strange to reflect what mus be the feeling of the honest policemen who are obliged to serve under such a commander as Capt. CREEDEN. They will surely find it somewhat difficult to apologize for him. When a stranger says, "I understand that the Captain of your precinct is a perjurer, liar, and briber, and probably a blackmailer." the policeman can only respond: "Yes, I know, but he was a hero in the war, and he was also heroic enough to make an important confession just at the time that the LEXOW committee wanted him to make it, and thus secure for himself

immunity from punishment." If this disgraced police captain is to ranked by modern journalists and modern moralists as a hero, then the appellation must hereafter be deemed infamous instead of honorable.

French Ministry Nearly

It is hard for Americans to understand why the present French Cabinet should permit itself to be imperilled by refusing to purge the rolls of the Legion of Honor. What seems to us a reasonable demand was put forward that the council of the Legion should expunge the names of all persons notoriously implicated in the Panams and other scandals. Singled out for especial reprobation was M. EIFFEL, who, it will be remembered, was convicted in the Panama trials, but subsequently acquitted. That the acquittal was on technical grounds seems evident from the fact that he has since been compelled to make restitution of several millions of francs to the official liquidator of the bankrupt company. He is thus a self-confessed embezzler and, if such a man can remain a member of the Legion of Honor, that body has ceased to deserve its name, and had better be abolished.

Why, then, did the French Ministry risk its existence on a refusal to purify an order, which ought to be held in high respect? Because all the men who were smirched by the Panama scandal, and who succeeded in getting themselves returned to the present Chamber of Deputies, are found in the ranks of the Ministry's supporters. These men have proved strong enough to send to the rear persons of high character and great ability, like M. CAVAIGNAC, who had evinced a determination to expel ruscals from public life. They are, doubtless, strong enough to destroy the existing Cabinet, but it would be better in the long run for the Cabinet to fall by their defection than to obtain, as it obtained on Monday, a bare majority of five for its misguided effort to protect them. A majority of five is plainly a moral defeat, and it remains to be seen whether the Ministers can survive it.

The Political Crisis in Italy.

We receive conflicting accounts of the purport of the documents, which have been submitted by ex-Premier GIOLITTI to the Italian Chamber of Deputies, and by which many conspicuous politicians are said to be implicated in the banking scandals. According to one report, there is nothing in the papers calculated to injure the present Prime Minister; according to another correspondent, usually well informed, both Signor Chisri and a member of his family are distinctly incriminated. The latter statement can be more easily reconciled than the former with the treatment which the

documents have received. It is obvious that those persons who were conscious of guilt, would desire to sequestrate papers which, as they knew or suspected, would disclose evidence against them. Equally clear is it that those who knew themselves to be innocent, would welcome an immediate publication of the documents, in order that a separation of the sheep from the goats might be effected

as speedily as possible. Let us see what occurred. No sooner had ex-Premier Gto-LITTI laid before the Chamber the records relating to the connection of politicians with the banking scandals than a demand that they should be read broke forth in many quarters. This demand was strenuously resisted by Signor CRISPI, and finally, by a very small majority, the papers were referred to a committee Those, however, who desired a prompt reve lation of the truth consoled themselves with the reflection that the committee must presently report, and that nothing could then avert a publication of the documents. To their disgust and indignation, a report of the committee was prevented by a decree proroguing the Parliament; and it is generally expected that the prorogation will be followed by a dissolution. Meanwhile, the papers will remain in the custody of the committee; but that they can be safely tampered with is improbable, for Signor GIOLITTI is a man of too much astuteness and experience not to have had photographic copies taken before suffering the originals

to pass out of his hands. The course pursued by Signor CRISPI in this business has not only subjected the Prime Minister himself to grave suspicion, but has seriously shaken public confidence in King HUMBERT L, who by signing the decree of prorogation has made himself a party to an attempt to hush up a scandal. It seems plain enough that the Italian sov ereign has been badly advised, unless, indeed, the rumor is well founded that thorough exposure of the banking frauds would implicate certain members of the royal family. Whatever may have been the grounds on which HUMBERT I. consented to prorogue the Parliament at this juncture, there is no doubt that this proceeding coupled as it is with a previous betrayal of a wish to smother investigation, will tend to render precarious the position of the Savoyard dynasty. With nearly half the regstered voters complying with the injune tions of the Vatican not to recognize the Italian Government by taking part in the elections, and with the Radicals, who constitute the majority of the other half, fast drifting into avowed disloyalty, the devoted adherents of the house of Savoy must now form only small fraction of the electorate. Neverthe less, it is commonly assumed in foreign countries that a revolution in Italy is impossible, owing to the hold which the mon archy is supposed to possess upon the stand ing army. Whether, as a matter of fact, the lovalty of the soldiers, which is thus taken for granted, extends beyond the Piedmontese contingent, is a question which events may at any hour put to the test.

American Armor Triumphant.

The award of the entire armor contrac for the new Russian battle ships Sebastopol and Petropavlovsk to the Bethlehem Iron Company of Pennsylvania may fairly be called the crowning triumph of an impor tent branch of American industry.

When, less than eight years ago, Secretar WILLIAM C. WHITNEY made a contract with the Bethlehem Works for about 4,500 tons of steel armor plate, to cost upward of \$3,600,000, the foundation of the armor making industry in this country was laid. A great step had been taken by his prede cessor, Secretary CHANDLER, namely, that of beginning the building of steel war vessels in America. But for armor-making a new steel plant, or set of appliances, was needed, and by putting together the appropriations for the armor required by a num ber of new ships, Secretary WHITNEY was able to offer a sufficient inducement for incurring the cost of such a plant.

But the actual production of American ship armor comes down to a still later date It took a long time for the preparations and then additional time for experiments. The contract with the Bethlehem Company, signed July 1, 1887, called for the comple tion of the plant in two and a half years, or on Dec. 1, 1889, and for the delivery of the first installment of 300 tons of armor by Feb. 1, 1890. But delays ensued in this novel and costly enterprise, carrying the fulfilment of the contract stipulations well ong into the year 1891.

In the mean time certain great steps were taken, which have proved of vital importance in securing the present renown acquired by American armor. Secretary TRACY had come into the control of the Navy Department on March 4, 1889, and had appreciated at once the importance of the Bethlehem contract, which he called the crowning triumph of my predecessor. The Bethlehem Works were to manufacture heavy plates for battle ships on the system adopted by the SCHNEIDERS of Creusot, in France-that is, the system of homogeneous all-steel plates, as distinguished from the compound plates, adopted for the British battle ships. Secretary TRACY's attention was attracted, in July, 1890, to some im portant experiments going on in England and France for the introduction of nickel as an alloy of steel. Acting instantly on that information he ordered from the Messrs SCHNEIDER a nickel-steel plate, 6 feet by in size and 10% inches thick, to be tested against a similar all-steel SCHNEIDER plate and a compound plate made by CAMMELL of Sheffield, which he had also ordered.

The trial came off at Annapolis the folowing September, and the fame of it rang through the world. The nickel alloy plate came out shead, the all-steel plate a good second, and the compound plate a very bad third. Secretary TRACY thereupon procured a large appropriation from Congress for buying nickel matte, and America was first in the field in the use of nickel armor When the earliest Bethlehem nickel plates were finished, they proved superior even to the Creusot, thus making American armor at the very start the best in the world. In order to obtain such armor fast enough Mr. TRACY gave out a large contract which resulted in founding a second great plant at the CARNEGIE works of Pittsburgh, and this was put into operation more speedily, as the armor there instead of being forged un der a gigantic hammer was rolled.

Very soon after the adoption of nickel came a second and extraordinary improvement in American armor. This was the process of hardening the surface by means of supercarbonizing, under the invention of Mr. HARVEY of Newark, whose success with it in the manufacture of steel tools had attracted the attention of Commander Fol-GER, Chief of the Ordnance Bureau at that time. After some difficulties had been surmounted, the triumph of this American process became indisputable Foreign nations eagerly availed themselves of it. In England, VICKERS of Sheffield achieved a complete success with it in a trial on the proving hulk Nettle at Portsmouth. Then a Harveyed plate made by VICEERS was sent to the polygon at Ochta, the Russian ordnance ground, and won great victory there. Presently the British Admiralty adopted the HARVEY process, applying it, however, to plates wholly of steel, and not using nickel alloy, as we do. English armor is now Harveyed. Accordingly it will be understood why the

Russian Government, while knowing the value of the Sheffield and Creusot works, has now come to Bethlehem. We are not to infer that, with the rates for American labor, it can get armor cheaper here, and indeed the Bethlehem and CARNEGIE works, which had both put in bids, seem to have suspected that the European makers would combine for low prices rather than create the precedent of allowing such contracts to come across the water. The actual award is, in fact, something of a sur prise, and has created the impression that Russia, influenced by the success of American armor, may have determined to try it on these two ships, even at a higher price. He this as it may, the statement from Bethlehem is that the contract was secured over fourteen competitors, including KRUPP. and that it calls for more than 12,000 tons In Secretary TRACY's report for 1890 it is declared that up to July of that year, al-

armor for all our existing ships nearly completed, and an American establishment engaged to provide it for the needs of a great foreign power. Can't our friends, the British yachtsme with Lord DUNRAVEN at the head, yet pull

themselves out of the hole of rudene

which they have dived, and make a race? There

though 20,000 tons of armor were required

for our new steel fleet, "not a pound of this

day, after the lapse of a little more than

four years, we find the supply of American

To-

armor had yet been manufactured."

To-day is the anniversary of two battles in the war of 1812. On the night of Dec. 18, 1813, the British under Gen. DRUMMOND three a force of 550 men across Niagara River at place called Five Mile Meadows, three miles above Fort Niagara. Immediately on crossing the British marched down the river, and at 4 A. M., Dec. 19, drew near Fort Ningara This place was defended by Gen. Grongs MCCLURE, who had learned of the intended invasion and had gone to Buffalo to raise a force to repel the British. When the British approached the fort was garrisoned by 450 men under Capt. LEONARD, and when they arrived Capt. LEONARD was asleep in a farmhouse three miles away. A large portion of the garrison were invalids in the hospital, and everything about the fort showed the carelessness of the American commander. The British, on the other hand, had made the most careful preparations So stealthy was their approach that the sentinels were seized and silenced before they could give the alarm. The main gate of the fort was wide open, and the British marched in without opposition. A guard in the southeast blockh fired once, wounding the British commander, Col. MURRAY. The British rushed into the hor pital and barracks and began slaughtering the Americans right and left. More than forty of the invalids were bayoneted in their beds, as were fifteen others who had taken refuge in the cellar, and fourteen wounded. Of the entire garkilled, fourteen wounded, and 340 made prison ers. On the part of the British only five me were killed, and a surgeon and three men were

On the same morning of this attack a detachnent of British troops and 500 Indians unde Gen. RIALL crossed from Queenstown and attacked Lewiston. The place was defended by a small force of Americans under Major Ben-NETT. These men fought heroically until completely surrounded by the overwhelming force of the enemy, when they cut their way through the British lines and escaped, leaving only After plundering the village the British burned all the houses, while their Indian allies added all the atrocities characteristic of their mode of warfare. The British then marched upon the villages of Youngstown, Tuscarors, and Manchester, now Niagara Falls, and after plundering the houses and driving the inhabitants ato the wilderness they burned the town.

In the letter from our correspondent a Florence, Italy, which we published a few days ago, we were told that the theatregoers there favor particularly those plays in which the actors upon the stage debate and illustratequestions in philosophy, ethics, and social law. We regret to be forced to admit that the theatre goers in New York have not yet reached this height in the ladder of culture. Most of them want plays of a lighter kind, those that give them relief from thought and make them laugh, rather than those that cause them to think upon ethics and the soul. Perhaps the Florentines not spend so much of their time in thinking during the day as the New Yorkers. Even the tramas of SHAKESPEARE, in which philosophy and ethics are ever at the front, have ceased to be as attractive to New Yorkers as they ought to be. If the Florentine actors could speak English, we would invite a company of them to visit New York. Florence has been a city of culture and art for a thousand years. Founded before the Christian era, it is yet the loveliest of the many lovely cities of Tuscany. We could wish that the impatient New Yorkers were able to sit through a one-act play like that of GIOVANNI Bovio which has entranced Florentine audiences so many nights of this year.

His Imperial Majesty of Germany is si encing all the captious critics who sneer at the words or the music of his Song to Aegir. Be ides those of them who were recently arrested at Berlin, a good haul of others has been made at Hamburg. They are accused of "making disrespectful remarks" about the composition which the Emperor claims the authorship, such remarks as render them liable to imprisor ment for less majesté. The imperial clemency was exercised in the cases of several of the de tractors who were arrested for laughing at the time of the Sang's publication; but this seems to have served only as an encouragement for others of their kind, the whole of whom are now in danger. The offence of BEBEL and LIEB-ENECHT in refusing to cheer for his Majesty a the opening of the Reichstag a few days ago was of little consequence in comparison with the snarling of the poetry critics. Prof. LEVY of Cologue has gone so far as to allege that the work is weak, while the Kleine Journal, an audacious publication, tries to prove that it is un grammatical. What is majesty worth anyhow, when the critics dare to swagger in its face?

THE SUN cannot uphold those of the analytical ersiders and sol-faists of Germany who are to disrespectful in their analysis of the Aegir Sang of WILLIAM II. After examining words of it, and listening to the tune of it, we are happy to assure his Majesty that it is no half so bad as some of his subjects say it is. We affirm that it has merit.

It is pleasant news that the Ute Indians of Colorado who invaded Utah last month, to the number of 1,000 or more, have returned to their reservation in Colorado, at the request of Gen. McCook. For a time they were threatened with assault by the Governor of Utah, who raised the cry of danger to the settlers, called out the militia for public protection, and urged the War Department to help him to drive back the savage invaders, who, according to his de-spatches, were about to devastate the Territory and butcher its people. Fortunately for all concerned, Gen. McCook took the business out of his hands and sent an officer to confer with the wandering band of Utes, who, as it turned out, were not upon the warpath at all, but were merely hunting in a desolate region of Utah which they had been led to regard as their own. As soon as they were asked by the army officer to return to their proper reservation in Colorado, they signified their readiness and willinguese to do so, mounted their ponies, and began to leave Utab, the Governor of which had been scared without cause. There was not the least difficulty in dealing with the roaming Utes. They were not bloodthirsty, but peaceful; not sugaged in devastation, but looking for game. They are very good Indians. If the Governor of Utah had not been over-

ruled by the commander of the departm uilitia would very certainly have attacked the Ute band, and then we would have heard of

Indian ravages and other misdeeds, calling for s campaign of extermination. Many of our indian wars, particularly those of later times, have been brought about through a misunder-etanding of Indian purposes. Gen. McCook deserves more credit for the peaceful settlement of the Ute affair than he could have won if he had killed every Ute alive.

A correspondent sends us word of his pur pose to invent a couple of machines which shall turn out such works of art as oil paintings and marble statuary. We encourage him to go shead. Machinery has not yet been used in the branches of industry to which he refers; but we do not feel called upon to say that it may not be invented. The masterpleces in oil and marble are high priced because the artists spend much skill and time in their production; but if they can be turned out at the rate of hundreds a day by a machine, they will be brought within the reach of the poor. There is no discoverable limit to the use of machinery in this age of the world. There is no doubt that the hand-painter and hand-sculptors charge too much for their

THE CONSPIRACY AGAINST ME BROCKWAY.

From the Electra Telegram Thus ends a persecution born in calumny, pro moted by subornation of perjury and carried or perjurers. There never was any real necessity for the investigations. No cause therefor exinvestigations. No cause therefor existed, or ever has existed, except the malignant hate and sensational clamorings of a vile, if not criminal, newspaper combine. The records of the prison have always been an open be pet organs of the criminal classes have been aught a wholesome lesson. The represents tives of thugdom should now slink away and nide their shameless faces.

From the Syracuse Journal.
Superintendent Brockway has passed through terrible ordeal. He has been hunted with calumny and malignity scarcely equalled in any like persecution. But his vindication is com-plete, and carries with it recompense for all that he has been compelled to endure

From the Newbury Press. The charges against Mr. Brockway were made for the sole purpose of booming the New York World by creating a sensation, and we doubt it half a dozen people can be scared up who really believe that the World had any other object is view. For years the World has been recognized as the most brazen and libelious sheet that was ever allowed to be issued from a newspaper office. It has attacked men in all stations of life without the least shadow of cause, simply to reate a sensation and increase its own circula tion; hence it is not at all surprising that ever its own party papers denounce it in unmeasured terms.

From the Saratoga Press. It is a matter of congratulation to the State and to the whole country that the malicious, ensational, bulldozing, blackmailing attack nade by certain parties upon the Superintendent and Board of Managers of the State Reform atory at Elmira has been finally squeiched by the report of the Commissioners appointed to investigate the charges, and by the action of Gov. Flower in sustaining the report. From the Jamestown All.

The New York World, which, accepting the stoies of vengeful convicts, brought the charges against Mr. Brockway and the Reformatory managers, and which has been shamefully abu sive of them and of Gov. Flower, of course does not relish the Commission's finding and the Governor's determination.

Join and Help the M. A. S.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The work of decorating the Court of Over and Terminer undertaken by the Municipal Art Society progressing favorably, but it will be impossible r us to undertake a new work in the course of next year without a very large increase in the

Our motto is, " To make us love our city we nust make our city lovely," and we feel that there must be more than 600 breasts in New York in which these words would stir a responsive echo.

The object of the Municipal Art Society, which was organized in March, 1893, is "to provide adequate sculptural and pictorial decorations for the public buildings and parks in the city of New York." Both men and women are eligible for membership, and the annual dues, or membership fee, are \$5. Life membership, \$50.

The cooperation of all public-spirited citizens is solicited, and all such persons desiring to join the society may do so by sending their names to Edward Hamilton Bell, Secretary, 48 East Twentieth street, accompanied by a check for the annual membership fee of \$5, which should be drawn to the order of Henry Marquand, Treasurer. Edw. Hamilton Bell, Secretary. for the public buildings and parks in the city of

No Rest for the Barbers

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In last Monday's Sun there was an account of the opposition to keeping liquor stores or saloons open on Sunday. It was asserted that it was against our American institutions; that Sunday should be kept as a Sabbath, and that America and its American institutions should be respected. Now, why don't these people go a little further, and close barber shops on Sunday after-

ther, and close barber shops on Sunday afternoon?

Up to ten years ago the barber had Sunday afternoon off, but with the coming into the business of foreigners, viz. Italians, Jews, and some
Germans, things have changed. At first only
the Italians keet lopen all day Sunday; then a few
Jews (who claim Saturday as their Sunday, but
keep open then all the same, and don't recognize
our Sunday); then a few Germans, who don't care
for any law that America makes for a holiday,
but are on the grab to make an extra dollar or
two on that day, at the expense of the help, and
lately all the first-class hotels, viz. Hoffman,
Grand, Gilsey, Imperial, Metropole, Mariborough, Waidorf, Savoy, and others, Almost
all of the clubs keep open until 6 or 7 o'clock on
Sunday evening, and on every holiday, which
used to be counted as a Sunday, so that the
journeyman had a half holiday where other
people had a whole one, and now he has none.

Now the barber shop employee has to go to
work at 7 A. M. until 8 or b P. M. and one hour
more on Saturday.

Bon't you think, Mr. Editor, that the people

work at 7 A. M. under more on Saturday.

Ion't you think, Mr. Editor, that the people who want the Sabbath respected might take the barber's case in hand also, for the benefit of the journeyman, as he himself is almost helpless and cannot complain or he loses his position. DAVE LEWIS, Barber.

MARGARET OF NAVARRE TOLD IT. She Anticipated by 350 Years Mr. I. B. Milier in Harper's Magazine.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUS-Sir: In your issue for Dec. 12 "Anxious Inquirer" writes concerning a story in the December Hurper, the central idea of which he says "has been current for the last fifty or one hundred years," and he wishes some one to inform him who first told it. It is an easy matter to help "Auxious Inquirer" back to before the year 1549 at Auxious inquirer back to before the year 1549 at least, for if he will turn to the XXXIV, novel, told on the fourth day, of the Heptameron of the ingenious Margaret, Queen of Navaire, he will find substantially the same story, the chief difference between it and that of the ourront writer being inta the merry Nomezhde is made to tell it twice as well in half the space. I have always held that these old writers ought to be put down by the strong arm of the law. They an working modern integrally integral of our hardest working modern integrally integral. A. H. W. LASE CHY, Minn., Dec. 14.

Belights and Dangers of the " Penny Walk." To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Siz: In the always interesting Sunbeam column this morning is a paragraph about an attractive and novel amusement called the "penny walk." An improvement suggests itself to me, in view of the fact that tossing a penny gives sine, in view of the fact that tossing a penny gives only two chances, involving simply turning to the right or left. It would add to the interest to have a third chance, that of going straight abread. It may be safely assumed that no man would choose to take a solitary penny walk." Anything even remotely suggestive of a solitary cent is distinctly the reverse of attractive. With more than one walker in the party the thing can be developed beautifully. Toss two cents. If they do not match, so straight ahead, If they are not beads, go one way, and if they both turn talls, go the other. go the other.

night be well in this city to add a rule that the
my nathfinder aboutd not be followed overboard

There th night to make a should not be followed overboard penny and the walk turned into a wade or a swim. There are only a few weeks in the year when it would be are only a few weeks in the year when it would be pleasant to walk into the river. A walking party might find themselves at a Squit street or West street corner and be told by the directing pennies to go straight ahead.

Willie Holly.

Mrs. P. W. Vanderbilt and the Newsboys. To rase Energy of The Stre-Sir: The letter sent to Mrs. F. W. Vanderbilt on account of her giving a diamer to the newshory is the product of a very nar-row saided. It was not done for effect, as some might think, but from what we all should powers, pure thadless. I for one say, God ideas her. You're respect fully. NEW YORK, Dec. 16.

traight ahead. New York, Dec. 1s.

From the Elmira Teleprom.
The Sun does not have to tell its readers that it is a great paper. The readers know it.

WE MAY RETALIATE.

The Act of 1890 May be Invoked Against

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 .- It is confidently expected at the State Department that the Span-ish Government will stop its discrimination against American flour, imported into Cuba upon the representations made by Minister Hannis Taylor regarding the almost forgotten power resting in the President to retaliate, and by proclamation to forbid the importation of Cuban sugar. It is probably not true that been made by Mr. Taylor, but it is understood that he has made clear to Spain th great friendliness manifested by this country as evidenced by the reluctance of the President ouse the authority conferred by Congress in the Meat Inspection and Adulterated Food Act of Aug. 30, 1800, to institute retaliatory pro

cedings. It is believed that Germany will also be affected by the attention that is now being called o this act, and that a modified attitude toward American products, the importation of which Into Germany is now practically prohibited, will result. The act referred to is very broad in the discretionary authority it gives to the Presi-dent. Sention 5, under which Germany, as well as Spain may be reached, is as follows:

as Spain may be reached, is as follows:

Wensver the President shall be satisfied that unjust discriminations are made by or under the authority of any foreign State against the importation to ersale in such foreign State against the importation to ersale in such foreign State and product of the United States, he may direct that such products of such foreign State so discriminating agrainst any product of the United States, as he may deem properties may be excluded from importation to the United States, and in such case he shall make proclamation States and its error in ame the time when such proclamation shall take effect, and after such date the importation of the articles named in such proclamation shall take effect, and only in the state of the articles and only in the president may at any time reverse or modify, terminate, or receive any such direction as in his opinion the public interest may require.

interest may require.

It is learned that action in compliance with these terms has been urged upon the President for two months, but that he has preferred to give Spain ample time to recognize the injustice of her discriminations before resorting to the radical power entrusted to him. If, however, he is convinced that the interests of the United States can be fully protected in no other way it is understood that he has expressed a determination to issue such a preciamation as contemplated by the law, and prohibit importations from any country which maintains an unfriendly commercial attitude to the United States.

GRANTED BY THE ALDERMEN. A Street Car Line in West Eighty-sixth

Street-Victory for the Hackm The Board of Aldermen passed yesterday esolution allowing the hackmen to have one hack in front of each hotel. This is a victory for the hackmen, as the hotel proprietors have objected to what they termed the entering wedge. The hotel people threaten to take the matter to the courts, as they maintain that the Board has not the right to grant any back owner the right to stand in front of their property. The Law Committee had given both sides a

The Board granted a franchise to the Fortyecond Street, Manhattanville and St. Nicholas Avenue Railroad for a line to run through Eighty-sixth street from the Boulevard to Central Park, to connect with the line now running through Central Park, and over East Eighty-sixth street to Avenue A. One fare will be sixth street to Avenue A. One fare will be charged for the trip across town.

The Board granted permission to J. R. Downey, a contractor, to construct a vault under the sidewalk at Thirty-fourth street and Fifth avenue for the newshotel to be built by the Astors.

Astors.

Alderman Long opposed the grant, which, he said, meant the giving away of \$230,000 of city property to the Astors. Alderman Long also protested against granting the franchise to the street car line. He said that on West Eighty-sixth street property owners were very much opposed to tracks being laid. Alderman Keon and Owens asked that the subject of the franchise be laid over. The three voted against it, but it was granted.

ECCENTRIC, BUT NOT MAD. This Was Edwin Baker's Condition, and Consequently His Will Is Upheld,

Surrogate Abbott of Brooklyn has admitted the will of the late Edwin Paker, the eccentric real estate dealer, to probate, in spite of the determined efforts of his widow, Mary E. Baker, and his children to have it upset. For several years before his death Mr. Baker had been noted is a political crank, and the closing years of his life were marked with a bitter contention between him and his wife and children. In 1890, after thirty-two years of married life, there was

after thirty-two years of married life, there was a separation, and he then devoted himself to annoying his wife in every possible way. His housekeeper, Susan Morrill, seems to have been the only person in the world with whom he maintained any friendly relations.

By his will, which bears date Oct, 7, 1893, he left \$13,000 of his \$100,000 estate to relatives and friends in England; to the Brooklyn Library, \$1,000; to his friend Susan Morrill, all his money in the South Brooklyn Savings Institution and Dime Savings Bank; to his widow, what the law allows and no more," and the residue to his chidren. Surrogate Abbott says that although the deceased was "violent, stingy, unrosee, revengeful, and intemperate." that although the decased was "violent, stingy, morose, revengeful, and intemperate," it was evident that he knew what he was doing, and had sufficient testamentary capacity when he executed the will. He adds:
"Many entries in his dinry were undoubtedly the silly, obscene, and more than the drunk.

the silly, obscene, and profane effusions of a drunken brain, but at the time the will was prepared and executed I do not think the tec-tator was so under the influence of intoxicants as to be incapacitated. Eccentric and abnormal in many phases of his character, Edwin Baker was not insane.

Sr. Louis, Dec. 18.-The first practical test of the benefits of the recently discovered anti-toxine as a cure for diphtheria was made here vesterday and proved a success. The patient three-year-old child of Floyd Schock. The child's condition was such that tracheotomy had been decided upon as a last resort to save its life. The parents, however, consented to the experiment of anti-toxine and its effect was instantly apparent. The child breathed easier and in twelve hours all diphtheritic symptoms had passed away.

The Trotting Sulky's Small Wheel Ex-From the Hub.

From the Hub.

When the first pneumatic sulky, with its 28inch wheels, began to lower the trotting records
thousands of horsemen and mechanics at once
began to reason that if there was such advantage in the pneumatic tire as to make the little
wheels win, what couldn't be done if the same
tire were placed on a large wheel.

For obvious reasons we chall never know how
many experiments were tried, but enough of
them have come to light to prove that the 28inch wheels, which are universally used to-day,
were not accepted blindly.

The question has been repeatedly asked. Are
not large wheels better than small ones, and, if
so, how do you account for the present revolution in trotting gigs?

act large wheels team to the present so, how do you account for the present it in in trotting gigs?

The answer is that large wheels are certainly in theory, and within cer-

tion in trotting gigs?

The answer is that large wheels are certainly better than small ones in theory, and within certain limits they are better in practice.

A pneumatic tire is comparatively heavy, and has required a flanged metal tire under it which will weigh fully as much per running foot as would a standard steel tire for the same vehicle. And, besides, the smaller a pneumatic tire is the more puscifical it is to make and maintain.

The pneumatic tire is an advantage. The small wheel is a disadvantage. From the advantages of the one we subtract the disadvantages of the other, and find that we have a balance in faver of that combination, viz., 28-inch wheels and 1%-inch tires.

Her Cholee. From the Detroit Pribune

He would have gathered in a warm embrace, but she waved him back. "You crush my heart," he protested,
"Better thy heart," she answered, "than my "The cuckoo rushed from the clock on the man-tel and with a wild shriek directed attention to the fact that it was now 11:15.

Startling News from Shaughat From the Muchine set Philadelphia Record.

Shanghai, Dec. 16.—Another victory has been won by the Japanese troops in Manchuria. The killed His Eafil? fill? fill? fill? fill? fill? fill?

Well Rid of Him. From the Charleston Neses and Courier. Mr. Adolph S. Ochs of the Chattanooga Pines has

withdrawn from the Southern Associated Press and joined his fortunes with the Associated Press of lillnote. We are not surprised. He is the only member of the Southern Associated Press of whose Edshity to he association we have had any doubt. He was the ings of the se mly member at the recent mas In Norfolk and Atlanta whose allegiance was regarded

Potatocs in the Argentine. From the Buenos Ayres Herald.

Potatoes are so scarce and dear in this city that the high-class restaurants exhibit them in th

Asthmatic troubles and screeness of the lungs or broad are usually overcome by Dr. D. Jayne's Expec-crant—a sure curative for code. — Adv.

TRINITY'S TEREMENTS.

Reports by Santtary Inspectors—Bad Drain-age and General Lack of Repair.

Sanitary inspectors of the Health Board have handed in reports on the condition of the tenement houses owned by the Trinity corporation. Yesterday thirty-one reports were made public. All the houses are on the lower west side. In

the following list details are omitted, but the main causes for complaint are given : No. 201 Variok street: Pavement not water tight; no sewer connections made with yards, resulting in dampness; sinks are bad.

No. 194 Hudson street: Walls dirty; outiouses containing piles of rags and straw; pavements of the yards not graded and pools of stagnant water have collected; sinks fithy. No. 175 Varick street: Walls dirty and offen-

sive; closets defective; pools of water in the No. 609 Greenwich atreet: Paper on the walls is dirty, ceillings dirty, and cellar filthy, containing decomposing vegetable matter.

No. 182 Hudson street: No sink for faucet, causing dampness in the cellar by dripping rear area not connected with sewer.

No. 338 Greenwich street: Two reports made, and a special complaint made to the Building Department; floorings are bad; sinks are out of order.

order.
No. 635 Greenwich street: Valves leaky; ban-faters of the halls are dangerous; foul odors arise from top floor staks.
No. 633 Greenwich street; Walls and hallways dirty; supply of water meagre, and pavements

dirty; supply of water meagre, and pavements not waterproof.

No. 640 Greenwich street: Cellings of top floor are dirty.

No. 045 Greenwich street: Cellar of house and extension used for lodging and sleepling by two adults in violation of section 18 of the sanitary code. The adults are workmen employed by '. Meinhoffer, lessee. The celling of the cellar is on a level with the aldewalk. Cellar of extension is not ventilated. Special complaint made to the Ruilding Department.

No. 183 Hudson street: Foul gases from zine pipes.

No. 184 Varick street: Roof loaks; plaster loose. No. 186 Varick street: A barber shop in the basement; foul odors from holes of lead traps;

basement; foul odors from holes of least training for fleaks. No. 199 Variok street: Brick pavement not water tight or connected with sewer. No. 178 Variok street: Pools of stagnant water in yard; damp boards; straw and rags in the yards emiting offensive odors; coling walls and all cellings dirty; colling of celler neither lathed nor plastered, and foul odors fill

the house. No. 203 Variok street: Pavement not water tight; sink fancets leak.

No. 182 Varick street; Foul odors from defective pipes; main wastepipe obstructed; fifthy waste water from sinks flows back into sink in the cellar. No. 180 Varick street: Foul odors from de-

No. 180 variek street: Foul odors from defective pipes.

No. 101 Variek street: Celling of basement is only twelve inches above level of sidewalk and below the level of the yard; occupied by two families; basement dark, poorly ventilated, and damp; had pavements and pools of water in the yard.

No. 173 Varick street: Damp and decayes boards in areas; pavenients not water tight; rearpart of yard unpaved and muddy; cellar windows broken.

No. 96 Barrow street: Pavements not water No. 96 Barrow street: Pavements and water the closets scant. No. 96 Harrow street: Pavements not water tight; water supply in closets scant. No. 224 Spring street: Roof leaks; pavements graded poorly; no sewer connections, causing dampness; defective drains. No. 455 Hudson street: Waste pipes are not

No. 455 Hudson street: Waste pipes are not ventilated.

No. 380 Hudson street: Banisters loose; walls dirty; plaster leose; yard dirty.

No. 252 Wast Houston street: Old brick drain in cellar allows escape of foul odors.

No. 254 West Houston street: Vard and woodshed dirty with decaying animal and vegetable matter; foul odors from gas pipes.

No. 256 West Houston street: Cellings and walls dirty; banisters loose and dangerous.

Other houses reported are 642 Greenwich street, 248 West Houston, and 653 Greenwich. The usual compilaints of dirty cellings and bad drainage are made against them.

22D'S ARMORY AFIRE. A Range Hented for the Tallors' Benefit

Causes \$2,500 Damage. Fire was discovered vesterday morning in the

third story of the Twenty-second Regiment Armory at Sixty-seventh street and the Boulevard, was burning in the floor of the mess hall on the Sixty-eighth street side, just under a flue attached to the range, and was extinguished after a short but stubborn fight on the part of the firemen.

atter a short but stubborn fight on the part of the firemen.

The flooring in the mess hall is separated from the range by a thick layer of concrete. During Sunday and Sunday hight a fire was kept up in the range for the tailors, who were at work arranging the uniforms of the regiment for Gen. Porter's fineral on Monday. It is supposed that the heat ignited the flooring through the concrete, and that the fire was amouldering a whole day before being discovered. The janitor noticed the smoke, and, on going to the second story, saw the flames coming down through the flooring and turned in two alarms.

The damage to the flooring and ceiling was about \$2,000. The damage to the regiment's property, consisting of mess hall furniture, carpets, &c., was about \$500, fully covered by insurance.

-Two former churches in Williamsburgh, one at Rooper street and Harrison avenue, and the other at Rodney and Ainslie streets, are now factories, while a third, at Bedford avenue and South Third street, may

be turned into a heer garden and concert hall.

Few persons know that Huntingdon, Pa., was named in honor of the Countess of Huntingdon, an eighteenth century great lady, who did much for the University of Pennsylvania. Provost William Smith of the university founded the little city in 1777, and gratefully honored the university's patron in naming

-East-side hair dressers seem to flourish in even the poorest quarters, partly doubtless because favorite forms of social entertainment theresbout are balls. masquerades, and dramatic performances, all more or ess demanding the aid of the hair dresser. Again, it the Hebrew quarter, the hair dresser is sometimes a wig maker, because so many Hebrew women live up to the old law requiring a married woman her head and wear a wig.

-Several associations of ministers in Washington

and Oregon have protested against the raising of hope and harley, because those products are used in the manufacture of interleating drinks. It is now stated that a very large acreage in Washington at present devoted to hops will most likely be put to other use next year. Because of the success of experiments to bacco will be grown on the land in future. The minsters have not yet been heard from.

-The phrase "coffee and cakes" means different things in different parts of this town. The first me ber of the phrase means sometimes a mysterious com-pound not yet fully identified, while the second mempound not yet fully identified, while the second mem-ber may mean buns, waffles, "sinkers," or sweet cakes. In the German quarters the phrase means pri-marily genuine coffee with hot milk and cheese cake, though the latter is sometimes mitigated in favor of persons with other than German tastes.

—Passers-by can get a glimpse through an area win-dow in a street near the head of the Howery of an in-teresting but little-known trade. Standing by his block, immediately behind the window, is a gold-

block, immediately behind the window is a gold beater, busily hammering at the skin that protects the precious metal that he beats into almost impalpable heets, while down in the corner, where the light is good, is a deft little woman, rapidly laying the sheet

into books by the aid of long light wooden tweezers.

The platforms of the electric street cars in Port land, Me., are to be covered in, vestibuled, for the comfort of passengers and the protection of motor-men and conductors in severs weather. The vesti-bules will be so constructed that they may be removed shen desired, in summer, for instance. Some Philaselphia street cars are so vestibuled, and in Ohio the law requires that such protection shall be provided. The cars of the Montague street cable line in Brookly a

-There is a nail foundry in Williamsburgh where the bellows under the forget are worked by five bis mongrel dogs, who inhor regularly a little more than an bour and a half each day. The dogs answer to the names of Joe, Peter, Rover, Jack, and George, and feed and sleep in the foundry. The animals tread in-side a wheel eight feet in dinmeter, and when the time of one is up another takes his place, and for eight hours a day the wheel and the beliews are kept going at the rate of about four miles an hour. In another foundry three dogs, named Spot, Check, and Haraess,

work the bellows. -There are yet many towns in the further West where the copper cent is despised, and the smallest coin used is a nickel, but here in New York, and in Eastern cities generally, pennies have been increasing to de mand in recent years. The fashion of clipping a cent from a dollar or half a dollar, making we cent and to cent prices, and almost every other price with odd cents figuring in it, has put a vast amount of copper change in circulation, and this is especially noticeable about Christmas time. One gets lots of brand-new red cons-just now in change at the big stores, where supplies of them have been laid in for the holiday trade.

-Superintendent Olibert of the St. Paul Public Schools, now in town, tells a story to illustrate the practical results of moral and hum specialty in the schools. Thankgiving has been made a subject of discussion in the achools for some years past, with the result that the children took voluntarily to contributing great wagon loads of food and other creature comforts to the poor on that featural. One text book of the school is a somewhat famous little olume teaching the lesson of kindness to brutes, and the effect of its teachings came out one Thanksgiving Day, when the boys, finding the horse that was to draw a load of their gifts without a blanket, stripped

off their scale to cover the animal while they loaded the wagen.